

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3-7, 9-11; cancel claims 2, 12-14; and add claim 15, such that the status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of constructing a desiccant pot by trapping a ~~spun-bonded~~ low density membrane of spun bonded plastics between opposed touching surfaces of two separate parts constituting ~~either the pot lid or and~~ the pot body, these two separate parts being made of high density plastic, and then fusing the membrane and the separate parts together by ultrasonic welding, characterized by providing one of the separate parts with a fine protuberance in the form of one or more ridges or points extending from its touching surface towards the touching surface of the other separate part to space the touching surfaces slightly apart, and pressing the two parts together with the membrane trapped between the touching surfaces so that the membrane is compressed at the point of contact with the protuberance thereby increasing its density at the point such that, at the time of ultrasonic welding, the protuberance acts as an energy directing protrusion, and the ultrasonic vibrations pass from the protuberance on the one part through the membrane at the point where it is compressed to increase its density to the other part, ~~in which one of the separate parts has upon its touching surface an energy directing protrusion, arranged such that when the three components are assembled so that the two separate body and lid parts are pressed together with the membrane between, the energy directing protrusion extends from one touching surface to the other to space them slightly apart.~~

2. (Cancel) A method according to claim 1, in which the energy directing protrusion comprises a fine protuberance in the form of one or more ridges or points standing higher than the underlying land area from which it protrudes.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, in which, the energy directing protrusion forms a continuous ridge around the periphery said of one of the parts part.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, in which, the energy directing protrusion comprises a series of discrete protrusions arranged around the periphery of ~~the~~ said one part.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the energy directing protrusion projects from the touching surface a distance of between 0.5 and 0.7mm.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the point or edge of the energy directing protrusion is as sharp as possible to ~~mimimise~~ minimise the cross-sectional area of the tip of the protrusion.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6, in which ~~at least one of the separate parts~~ the body is a tubular component and the energy directing protrusion is a sharp knife like edge at the ~~end(s)~~ end of the tubular body component.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, in which the energy directing protrusion is formed by moulding a chamfer to the outside edge of the tube wall.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, in which ~~that~~ the angle of chamfer is of the order of 60°.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the energy directing protrusion is arranged such that it bears against a peripheral area of the membrane.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the separate parts of the pot body and pot lid are of a high density polyethylene.

12. (Cancel) A desiccant pot made by a method in accordance with any one of the preceding claims.
13. (Cancel) A method of constructing a desiccant pot substantially as described herein with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.
14. (Cancel) A desiccant pot arrange substantially as herein described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.
15. (New) A method according to claim 1, in which the pot body has first and second ends and each end is provided with a pot lid and a membrane trapped between the pot lid and the adjacent end of the body.